26th August 1926]

Minor Irrigation Works.

Auction of fish in the tank of Poovanipattu big eri.

* 2345 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the tank fish in the tank of Poovanipattu big eri, Jayankondacholapuram, Trichinopoly district, was auctioned only for Rs. 2 to caste men though the fishes would fetch about Rs. 10 on account of not announcing properly about the auction among all classes of people near by ?

A.— The Government have no information on the subject.

Survey and Settlement.

Reduction of work at re-surveys and re-settlements.

* 2346 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : With reference to the answer to question No. 116 given at the meeting, dated 19th August 1925, of the Legislative Council, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to furnish now the suggestions received so far for the reduction of work at re-surveys and re-settlements to minimize the cost thereof ?

A. -The hon. Member's attention is invited to the paper placed on the Council Table on the 12th February 1926 (page 473 of the Legislative Council Proceedings, Volume XXVII, dated 12th February 1926).

Village Establishments.

Travelling allowances to amsam menons in Malabar.

* 2347 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact—

(*a*) that the amsam menons in Malabar (Village Accountants) are often directed to be present at the taluk offices on duty ; and

(*b*) that they are not paid any travelling or halting allowance on such occasions ?

A.—(*a*) Menons (karnams) are required to attend the taluk offices for jamabandi for closing their accounts and sometimes in connexion with inquiries relating to their villages. The Government have no reason to think that they are unnecessarily summoned to the taluk offices on duty.

(*b*) Under the rules now in force, village officers are not eligible for any travelling or halting allowance for their attendance at taluk offices.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Having regard to the fact that many of these karnams are poor people, may I know from my hon. Friend the Member for Revenue whether the Government have any intention of revising these rules and providing for some allowance to these poor people."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not aware of any such intention or proposal."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" Seeing the hardship to which these people are subjected to, will the Government be pleased to see the justice and charity of granting some allowance to them ? "